

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 SS-15 SCCT-01 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06

EUR-12 NEA-10 SP-02 ACDA-07 CIAE-00 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-06 DODE-00 FEA-01

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R 010513Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8844

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USERDA HQ WASHDC

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 6325

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: IAEA, AORG, OCON, AS

SUBJECT: IAEA 20TH GENERAL CONFERENCE: INVITATION TO PLO TO
ATTEND AS OBSERVER

REF: STATE 212234

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED TALKING POINTS CONTAINED IN PARAS ONE AND TWO OF REFTEL WITH PIERRE N. HUTTON, ACTING FIRST ASSISTANT SECRETARY, ECONOMIC RELATIONS DIVISION AND PERMANENT ASSISTANT SECRETARY, ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS BRANCH, IN DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA).

2. HUTTON SAID THAT FORMAL DECISION ON HOW AUSTRALIA SHOULD VOTE ON PLO OBSERVER STATUS HAS NOT BEEN MADE BY FOREIGN MINISTER PEACOCK. HE ADDED THAT IN VIEW FACT THAT PEACOCK WILL BE FULLY OCCUPIED WITH VISIT OF CANADIAN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER MACEACHEN, HE DOUBTED PEACOCK WOULD BE ABLE FOCUS ON ISSUE OF PLO IN IAEA UNTIL EARLY NEXT WEEK.

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3. HUTTON SAID THAT ALTHOUGH HE COULD OF COURSE NOT FULLY

FORECAST NATURE OF MINISTER'S DECISION, HE EXPECTED THAT AUSTRALIAN POSITION WOULD NOT BE FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT FROM AUSTRALIAN POSITION IN OTHER INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS WHERE THIS QUESTION HAS COME UP, I.E., WHILE DEPLORING POLITICIZATION OF SUCH FORA, AUSTRALIA TENDED TO AVOID TAKING A POSITION ISOLATED FROM MAJORITY OF WEO GROUP. IN OTHER WORDS, WHILE AUSTRALIA WOULD NOT RPT NOT VOTE FOR ADMISSION OF PLO AS OBSERVER TO IAEA, DECISION AS TO WHETHER TO ABSTAIN OR VOTE AGAINST WILL PROBABLY BE LEFT TO AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION AT RIO AND WILL DEPEND ON DELEGATION'S READING OF HOW MAJORITY IN WEO EXPECTED TO VOTE. HUTTON SAID THAT ALTHOUGH THEY NATURALLY HAD A PRETTY GOOD IDEA AS TO HOW CERTAIN COUNTRIES WOULD VOTE, THEY HAD NOT TAKEN ANY REAL HEAD-COUNT, PREFERRING TO LEAVE MATTER TO DISCRETION OF AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION AT RIO.

4. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO RIO WILL BE HEADED BY AUSTRALIAN GOVERNOR TO IAEA, DR. D.W. GEORGE, CHAIRMAN OF AUSTRALIAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION (AAEC). OTHER MEMBERS AUSTRALIAN DELEGATION TO INCLUDE AMBASSADOR FURLONGER, AUSTRALIAN AMBASSADOR TO IAEA; DR. WILSON, SENIOR ADVISOR, AAEC; AND PAUL BRYDEN, FIRST SECRETARY, AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY, BRASILIA. HARGROVE

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